

THE COLONNADE

The Official Student Newspaper of Georgia College

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gcsucolonade.com



Courtesy of the Hudgins family

Josh and Will Hudgins as young boys at the baseball park

Unvaccinated students

Miya Banks
Senior Writer

Approximately 0.005% of GC students have medical or religious exemptions from mandatory vaccinations according to records obtained from the registrar's office.

"They have two options," registrar Kay Anderson said. "A medical professional can sign off and say that they either have had it or should not get it or they can sign a religious exemption."

From 2016 to 2018, six students provided medical exemptions, and 106 provided religious exemptions. These numbers are the sum of those three years. In 2015 alone, four students had medical exemptions and 67 had religious exemptions.

According to the Fact Book, GC had 7,177 students in 2018 including joint-enrollment, transient, graduate and non-degree students. Using the 2016-2018 data, the average number of medical exemptions per year is two and the average number of religious exemptions is 35. By those averages, the total number of immunization exemptions was

37, meaning in 2018, approximately 0.005% of students were unvaccinated by exemption.

"Should there be an outbreak on campus, anyone who does not have the vaccination will be asked to leave campus," Anderson said.

If this should happen then whether the absences would be excused would be decided by the President's Cabinet.

There are six measles outbreaks across the U.S. and a total of 626 cases reported as of April 19, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

22 states, including Georgia, have reported cases of the measles, but only five are experiencing outbreaks. The affected areas are Rockland County, New York state; New York City; Washington State; Butte County, California; New Jersey; and Michigan.

"These outbreaks are linked to travelers who brought measles back from other countries such as Israel, Ukraine and the Philippines, where large measles outbreaks

SEE VACCINE | PAGE 5

FDA attempts to kick JUUL habits

Catherine James
Staff Writer

The Food and Drug Administration began the process of banning fruit flavored JUUL products from being sold to youths around the U.S. on Nov. 15, 2018.

While the JUUL website itself requires users to be 21 in order to purchase any products directly from the company, many other non-official retailers have been selling the products to underaged teens since they first appeared on the market.

According to the American Cancer Society, most high schoolers and under aged college students that have JUULS do not even realize the products contain nicotine. In 2012 it was estimated that 66% of teens believed that flavoring was the only product in their e-cigarette. Because of this, they are unaware of the extremely high levels of nicotine packed into each pod, or its ability to implement an addiction that users eventually become unable to kick.

The FDA is not trying to ban fruit flavors en-

Bobcat Baseball Brothers

Samuel Tucker
Staff Writer

Josh and Will Hudgins are two players on the GC baseball team's current roster that are brothers. This season is the first and last time the two brothers will play together on the same team.

Josh, a freshman management information systems major, is a right-handed pitcher, while his older brother, Will, a fifth year senior marketing major, is a utility player who alternates between designated hitter and infielder.

Will began his baseball career at Georgia Southern, where he played two years before deciding to take a break to focus on his degree in construction management. When he heard his younger brother Josh was attending GC to play baseball, he took advantage of the NCAA rule that states each player has four years of eligibility in a five year span. Although he graduated from Georgia Southern last spring with

a degree in construction management, Will was able to enroll in classes by declaring a marketing major.

Head baseball coach, Jason Eller, said the two brothers had no problem adjusting to the challenges of playing together. Will was even the designated hitter for Josh's first pitching start as a bobcat.

"You can really tell how much Josh looks up to Will, and what a great example that Will sets as a big brother for his younger brother," Eller said. "Their parents love the situation. I know their mom adores it and I can only imagine how much fun they have at home during the holidays."

Will began his baseball career at Georgia Southern, where he played two years before deciding to take a break to focus on his degree in construction management. When he heard his younger brother Josh was attending GC to play baseball, he took advantage of the NCAA rule that states each player has four years of eligibility in a five year span. Although he graduated from Georgia Southern last spring with

play very similarly, so we know if one of us is off."

Will was always someone that Josh looked up to as a role model. As an older brother, Will did his best to help Josh grow into the best athlete and person possible. Being the youngest of three brothers, Josh didn't always realize the responsibility his two older brothers felt towards him.

As he matured through his high school years, Josh began understanding why Will wanted him to constantly work and improve the fundamentals of his baseball game and become an outstanding individual as it would set him up for future success in college.

After hearing that his older brother Will decided to hang up his spikes, Josh described feeling lost because his role model in baseball decided to stop playing.

That sentiment wasn't lost, however, as Will made a conscious decision to use his last year of eligibility to transfer to Josh's school of

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Angie Yones / Art Director

are currently challenging the federal courts decision to allow this extension.

According to Jim Lidstone, the director of the center for health and social issues at GC, the use of e-cigarettes in middle and high school

SEE JUUL | PAGE 10

NEWS



SERVICE DOGS VISIT FOR FINALS

GC therapy dogs come to visit for finals week.

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SPORTS



GC ALUMNI TAKE ON COACHING

Graduated athletes come back to GC to support the Bobcats as coaches.

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ARTS & LIFE



THINGS TO DO IN THE SUMMER

GC students find things to do in Milledgeville during the summer while taking classes.

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NEWS

GC removes trash bins from classrooms

Brendan Borders*Staff Writer*

Trash and recycling bins were removed from classrooms and offices following spring break without warning, causing confusion at GC.

The trash and recycling bins were removed during the March 17-23 period of spring break and placed in a central location in the hallways of buildings, to encourage recycling.

GC officials said the trash bins were removed because of sustainability. Sustainability is a company or school managing and simultaneously exploiting all of its available resources. GC prides itself on three things: academics, campus

safety and the sustainability of the campus overall.

An example of sustainability on campus is the Wellness and Recreation Center located at West Campus. The building is low maintenance, has many windows to allow for natural light and lower electricity costs and the roof is insulated to bounce back heat from the sun to prevent high air conditioning costs.

Sylvia White, assistant director of building services at GC, said the waste receptacles located in classrooms across campus were being used for the wrong purposes, so they were removed when students were away.

"In order to support sustainability we needed to remove the trash cans," White said. "For some reason or another we ended up having trash cans in classrooms, and I said 'why do we have trash cans in classrooms, we are supposed to be sustainable.'"

Lori Strawder, GC's chief sustainability officer, said that back in 2013, members from the sustainability council traveled to Clemson University to observe how they practice sustainability.

Strawder said that she and Walter Dudley, the former head of building services, modified Clemson's program and opted to remove trash bins from offices and classrooms and instead put bins for recycling and trash in a centralized location. Each of the bins are set up with pictures so that students and staff can opt to put their recyclable plastic containers into one

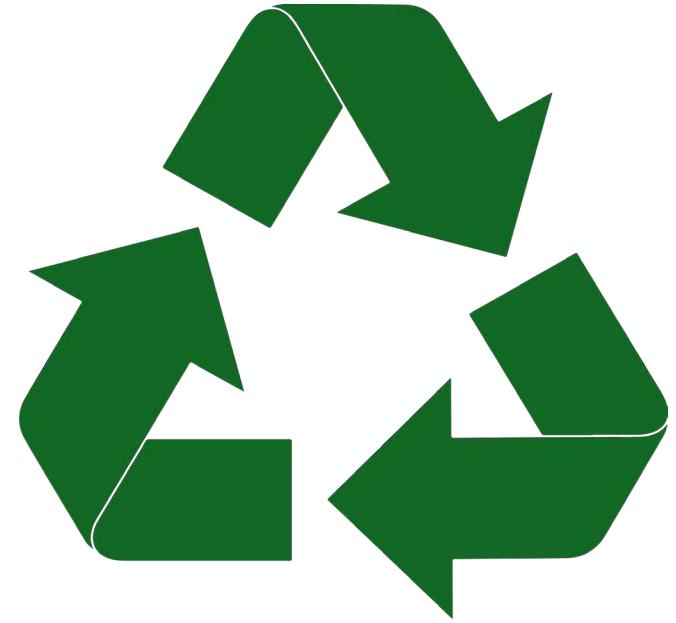
container and their candy bar wrapper in another.

"Over the years, since 2013, gradually the cans have kind of made their way back into classrooms, so now we are trying to get back to our original plan of pulling those trash cans," Strawder said.

Strawder said that the bins were being misused and were simply not supposed to be there, so they informed staff before spring break that the removal would be happening and after the break, the bins were gone.

Austin Doyle, a junior biology major said that he supports moving trash cans outside of classrooms as long as the move is effective for GC and the sustainability on campus.

"If moving them to a



Angie Yones / Art Director

more centralized area reduces the possibility of students throwing the incorrect type of material into a recycling bin then I am all for it," Doyle said. "But if there is no positive outcome from them moving [the bins] to a centralized location, then I don't see why they wouldn't put the them back in classrooms."



Emily Bryant / Graduating Photo Editor

The new 2019-2020 Colonnade Staff

From left to right, bottom row: Catherine James, Morgan Simpson and Jessica Gratingy. Middle row: Chris Collier, Lindsay Stevens, Emma Lammers, Ava Leone, Katie O'Neal and Eric Boyd. Top row: Angie Yones, Meghan Lindstrom, Emma Lako, Nicole Hazlett and Amy Lynn McDonald.

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NEWS

Students discover uncommon majors at GC

Nicole Hazlett
Asst. News Editor

Of the 39 undergraduate majors at GC, 11 of these majors hold less than 50 students in them as of Spring 2018, according to the GC Factbook. A few of these majors include: outdoor education (30), rhetoric (32) and geography (20).

Hannah Kate Mulanax, a sophomore, fell in love with the outdoor education program because she didn't want to be in a classroom, however, she wanted to teach.

"I see outdoor education as using an outdoor activity to better the mental and physical health of those we are working with," Mulanax said.

Mulanax found a way through her program to fulfill her love of the outdoors and working with children.

Athletic Training is another major GC offers. Athletic training is a combination of emergency care and rehabilitation. Athletic training is not to be confused with exercise science.

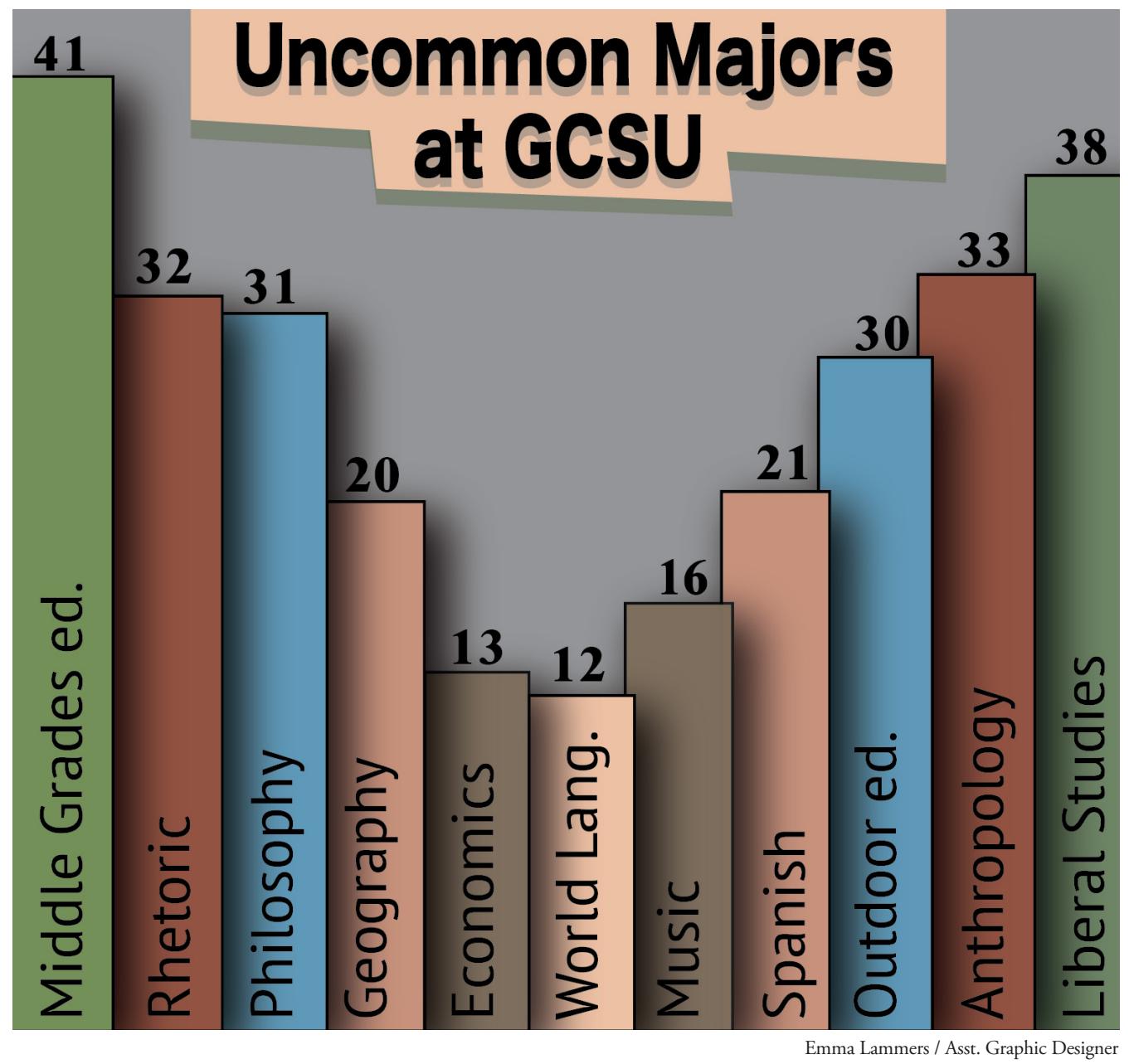
Emma Bohnet, senior athletic training major, is set to graduate this coming May 2019. Bohnet has been in the athletic training cohort for two years. Bohnet likes having a smaller major because the people in her cohort.

"They're reliable people that know what you're going through and understand what you have to commit to the two years in the cohort," Bohnet said.

Some students have heard of the music therapy major, however, it is another incredibly small major at GC.

"I'm doing three different things," said Julia Hufford. "I'm getting a music major, a psych major and I'm getting a special education minor. Music therapy is one major, but the course load fits that."

Hufford came to GC for the music therapy major. Hufford was touring GC and befriended a college student who opened her up to the idea of majoring in music therapy resulting in her desire to come to GC to study music therapy.



Emma Lammers / Asst. Graphic Designer

There are only nine music therapy freshman at GC, including Hufford. Hufford says there is a sense of community because it is such a small program.

One downside to a

smaller program is the threat of getting defunded or dissolved. Outdoor education is getting dissolved after this year. Hannah Kate is going to be one of the last students

to graduate GC with an outdoor education major.

Bohnert is going to be one of the last to graduate with an athletic training major as an undergraduate. Athletic training is being trans-

ferred to a graduate degree.

Other majors can be discovered by students searching for their perfect major. Some of the lesser known ones are anthropology, philosophy and liberal studies.

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NEWS

Service dogs visit GC for finals week

Madi Brillhart
Staff Writer

The Alliance of Therapy Dogs will bring dogs to GC campus during finals week on May 7 and 8. Each is a certified therapy dog, whose purpose is to help relieve the stress that many students experience during finals.

Judith Keim, one of the tester/observers for therapy dogs at GC, said she tells students that the dogs are guaranteed to lower blood pressure and raise grades.

"Then I amend that and say, 'I do know they lower your blood pressure; the grades are up to you all,'" Keim said.

Keim began bringing therapy dogs to GC campus over 10 years ago. Keim works with the Alliance of Therapy Dogs, a national organization that brings therapy dogs to various establishments across the country.

"They're a great group of folks who are dog owners who are interested in using their dogs to help," said Kell Carpenter, assistant director of access services at GC and acting liaison with therapy dogs.

Research has proven that short one-time visits with the trained puppies significantly lower blood pressure and increase energy levels, according to the Alliance

of Therapy Dogs website.

Therapy dogs have also been proven to help with anxiety and depression disorders, which typically first onset between ages 18 and 24, according to the Jed Foundation, an organization devoted to mental health education and resources.

"We walk through and see someone really concentrating or maybe in a negative mood, they just need what I call a 'reset,'" Keim said. "It just takes a minute and it changes enough of their focus to make a difference."

The dogs have become somewhat of a staple for GC students during fi-

nals. Jake Lawson, a junior marketing major, said they changed his attitude after a test he didn't do well on.

"I came out of the exam not very happy. I saw all the puppies running around and thought, 'How can I not smile?' and played with them a little and it totally changed my attitude," Lawson said.

Carpenter said the dogs have been coming for the eight years he's worked at GC.

"It's really neat because the students kind of turn into little kids and they just love it. It's a lot of fun seeing them get so much joy out of it," Carpenter said.

In addition to leading

the groups on campus, Keim is also involved in the testing and certification process each dog goes through before becoming a part of the team.

"[The testers] look at how the dog and owner interact, if the owner has full control, if the dog is polite and doesn't do anything antagonistic...They have to

be able to be around people and other animals and be friendly," Keim said.

Keim said that the test-

ing process is comprised of three 45-to-60-minute sessions, each in a different location to ensure the dogs are comfortable and stable in any environment.

"It's not difficult," Keim

said. "There's a time commitment, but once you're certified, you're good to go!"

Any breed of dog is welcome to begin the testing process and become certified.

"We often talk among ourselves, we question whether it's a good use of our time," Keim said. "And we've decided over the years that yes, it is. We come at a time where we don't always know the stress factors students experience, so if we're able to do it, we feel it's important to keep

it going-- rain or shine."

Students prioritize school over upcoming TV premiers and sporting events

Ava Leone
Web Managing Editor

GC students prioritize academics with upcoming premieres of the latest movies, TV series and sports events to maintain their GPAs as finals week approaches.

According to the Labor Bureau of Statistics, the average college student spends about 9 hours sleeping, 4 hours on leisure activities and 3.5 hours working on educational activities.

"A 20-30 minute break to watch a show might be a great way to rest and be able to return to an important task refreshed," said Steve Wilson, director of counseling services.

Wilson said students should not binge watch during finals week because avoidance of responsibility causes long term stress.

According to a study at Penn State, there was no evidence that TV had a significant impact on college grades. It was determined that for every additional hour per week spent watching TV in high school subsequently lead to a .003 drop in GPA. The average

American watches five to six hours of television daily and the average college student watches 1 to 1.5 hours of television a day.

"The 'Game of Thrones' premiere was on for an hour, and we had to set up before," said Rosalyne Bosarge, freshman middle education major. "I probably spent about a 1.5 hour of my time on it." Bosarge said she spent most of last semester catching up on the previous seven seasons of "Game Of Thrones" to prepare for the premiere of the new season on April 14. She said she enjoyed the mental break from her school work and atmosphere of community.

"Watching 'Game Of Thrones' is a break from school work," Bosarge said. "We would watch an episode almost every night, but it's easy to balance it [school-work and downtime] if you are not binging it."

Bosarge said she usually has most of her homework done by 9 p.m. and has not seen a shift in her academic success since the premiere.

According to a study at the University of Wis-

consin, binge watching can be separated into two categories: unintentional and intentional binge watching. Unintentional binging occurs when a person is unaware how many hours has passed since starting to watch a television, movie or sporting event. Intentional binging is the opposite. The person consciously makes a decision to sit down for multiple hours solely to watch media. The study found that "addiction symptoms were more common after unintentional binges."

Some students headed downtown to Buffington's Sunday night to take a break from academia and watch the "Game Of Thrones" premiere.

"We had about 20 to 30 people come out," said Trey Ford, a chef, server and bartender at Buffington's.

"We had a lot of business before the watch party but not during it. Only one guy ordered food. Most people ordered drinks."

Ford said Buffington's first watch party was a success and the people sat silent, invested whole heartedly in the premiere.



Emma Lammers / Asst. Graphic Designer

However, he said the event did not pull in higher levels of revenue compared to regular nights.

"We probably will host another watch party, but that's just playing it by ear," Ford said. "We had a decent turnout, so I don't see why we wouldn't."

With movies, like "Detective Pikachu" and "Avengers: Endgame," and TV series, like "Bachelor Reunion" and "Last Week Tonight With John Oliver," premiering during finals week, students will have to make conscious decisions between spending time on leisure ac-

tivities and their studies.

"It's sad to say, but I am a procrastinator by nature, so it's difficult to

turn off YouTube and Netflix to maintain grades," said sophomore Richard Guyton, a music therapy major. "I try to go cold turkey in finals season because I really want to make sure I get good grades."

Guyton said he takes regular breaks and reverts back to his regularly scheduled TV show or video every couple of hours to avoid going "crazy" from the stress of finals.

Instead of testing stu-

dent at the end of the semester, some professors prefer to assign large end-of-year projects, which can be more time consuming.

Dr. Hasitha Mahabandula, a physics professor, said his upper level physics students are required to turn in a journal paper. The project is a group effort and this semester is the first time he has required students to turn in a project for as their final.

As students advance in their field of study, balancing school work and fun will be the key to academic success and mental sanity as the semester comes to a close.

04.24.2019

MEGHAN LINDSTROM, NEWS EDITOR
NICOLE HAZLETT, ASST. NEWS EDITOR

NEWS

Vaccine**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

are occurring," according to the CDC's website.

The University System of Georgia has immunization policies in place to lessen the chance of outbreaks on college campuses.

USG Board of Regents Policy 4.8.2 requires that students provide proof they are up to date on six vaccinations before they are allowed to attend GC: measles (two doses), mumps (two doses), rubella (one dose), varicella (two doses), tetanus/diphtheria (one dose) and hepatitis B (three doses).

Students can receive exemptions from all these immunizations, Anderson said.

Student health services

director Britt McRae said that if GC's health clinic diagnosed a student with a spreadable disease such as measles, they would attempt to contain the infection by isolating the student or possibly sending them home. They would then inform the local health department to enlist an epidemiologist, McRae said.

An epidemiologist is "a person who studies or is an expert in the branch of medicine which deals with the incidence, distribution and possible control of diseases," according to the Oxford English Dictionary.

McRae said that if GC had a widespread outbreak, student health services would usually "enlist experts from the Department of Public Health to help manage cases and follow their recommendations."

Amber Erickson, director of epidemiology in the Georgia DPH North Central district, which includes Baldwin county, gave a statement on the procedure when there is an outbreak.

Erickson said that epidemiology programs across Georgia follow CDC guidelines and recommendations based on case findings and disease prevention requirements specific to the cause of an illness. Each investigation is unique, regardless of cause, and "requires a quick response by public health officials and our partners," Erickson said.

"[In accordance with] state and national law and best practices, public health officials are the lead for these types of investigations," Erickson said. "Who is involved, both within public health and our exter-

nal partners [depends on] the disease and situation."

Although unvaccinated students would be dismissed from campus until an outbreak was contained, there are basic procedures

DPH advises them to fol-

nated individuals should avoid close contact with anyone showing signs of measles, wash hands properly and often and stay home if they feel ill.

If a person believes they have been exposed to measles or develops symptoms, they should contact their healthcare provider imme-

dately and call ahead to inform that they suspect measles so the office can take necessary precautions to ensure no one else is exposed.

"Measles vaccine may prevent disease if given within three days after exposure," Hokanson said.

Hokanson said that while vaccination best prevents measles, "practicing basic germ protection can help reduce the chance of getting measles."

In an area where there is an outbreak, unvacci-

nated individuals should ter offers tetanus/diph-

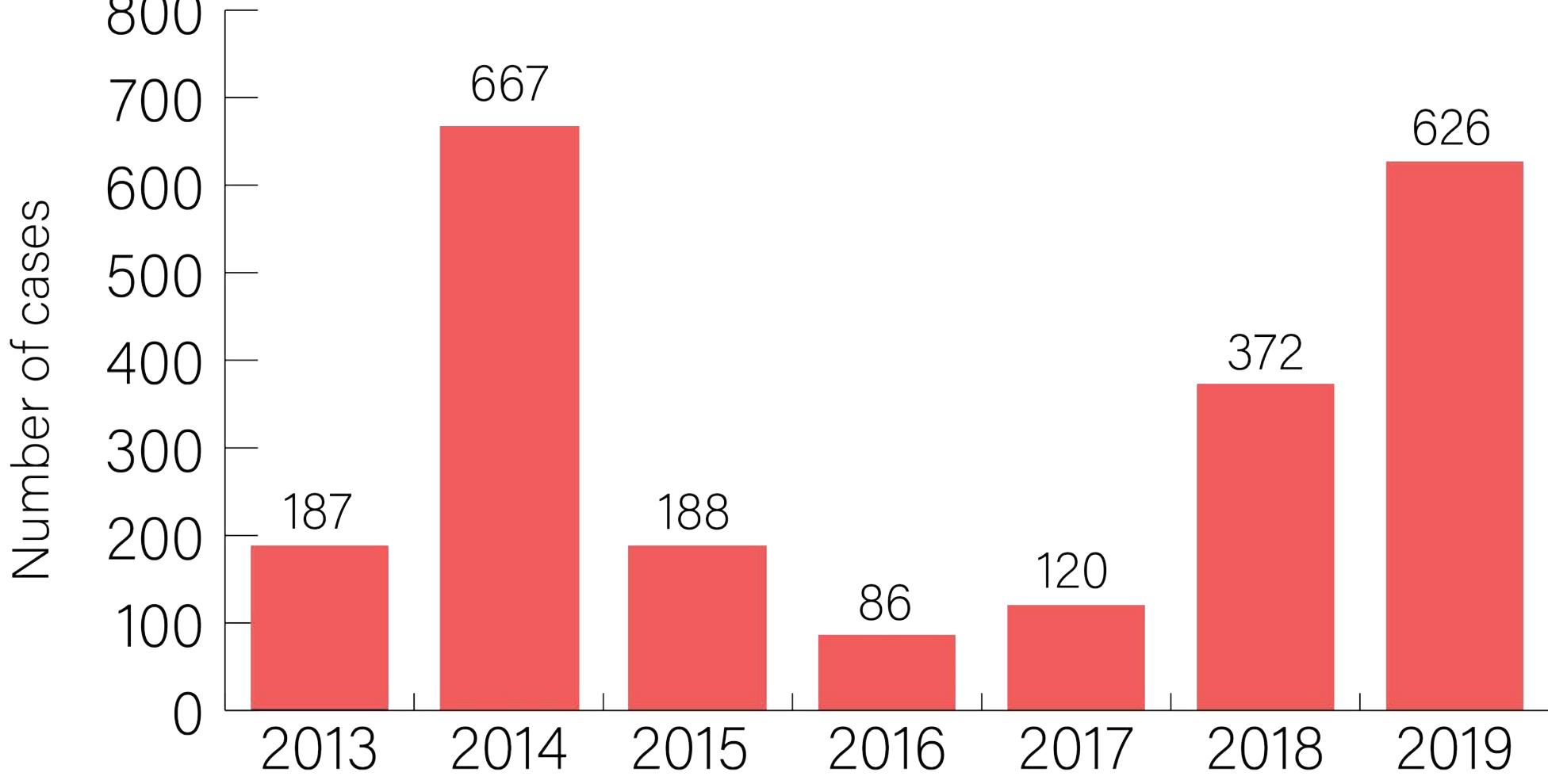
theria, Tdap and influenza vaccinations, but the Baldwin County Health Department offers all immuni-

zations required by GC policy as well as others that may protect students from spreadable diseases.

The tetanus/diphtheria shot, required every 10 years, is the immunization most often overlooked or forgotten, Anderson said.

If a student needs a tetanus/diphtheria shot, they can easily get it at BCHD.

"If a student has received vaccines in Georgia, we can pull their information from the Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services (GRITS) and see what vaccines the student has received and what needs to be updated," Hokanson said.



Information from CDC | Graphic by Angie Yones / Art Director

MILLEDGEVILLE CRIME

APRIL 22

CHINA GARDEN DINE-AND-DASH
ON APRIL 4, CHINA GARDEN CALLED GC POLICE IN REFERENCE TO A DINE-AND-DASH.

FIGHT AT CIRCLE K
ON APRIL 13, POLICE WERE CALLED TO THE CIRCLE K TO A CHAOTIC SCENE. THERE HAD BEEN A FIGHT BETWEEN TWO INDIVIDUALS BEFORE POLICE HAD ARRIVED. POLICE WATCHED THE SURVEILLANCE TO FIND OUT WHO HAD BEEN INVOLVED AND THEN TRANSPORTED THE SUSPECTS TO JAIL.

MILLEDGEVILLE AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
POLICE MET THE VICTIM OF AN AGGRAVATED ASSAULT IN THE LOBBY ON APRIL 16. THEY TOOK DOWN THE INFORMATION AND A DESCRIPTION OF THE SUSPECT.

Compiled by Lindsay Stevens

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CHRIS COLLIER, SPORTS EDITOR
ERIC BOYD, ASST. NEWS EDITOR**SPORTS****Hill's breakout season brings in another award****Taylor Keil**
Staff Writer

Outfielder Cameron Hill was awarded the Peach Belt Conference freshman of the Week for a conference record fifth time this season, and fourth time in a row last week.

The left-handed freshman had a .467 batting average over a four game span, as well as having three multi-hit games with two runs scored and two RBIs.

Hill went 2 for 3 against Clark Atlanta with an RBI. He also drove in a run in a 3 for 5 outing in the series opener at Flagler. He doubled in that game and went 2 for 4 in the series finale. He currently sits at ninth in the PBC in batting average.

When it comes to the rest of the season, Hill said he wants to continue the hot streak.

"It feels good, like hard work is paying off, but you

know I just want to stay hot right now and try to keep it going," Hill said.

He credits his production to his mentors and leaders.

"[I'm] getting out here and grinding hard and following in Wesley Womack's and Cal Gentry's footsteps, listening to the guys coach me, as well as Head Coach Eller and graduate Assistant Coach [Jake] Sandlin," Hill said.

Eller said his first impression of Hill told him all he needed to know.

"The minute he stepped on campus, the first swing that he took during practice.... I knew he was the right man for the job to replace Logan Maddox in center field, which were some big shoes to fill," Eller said.

Eller said Hill's opponents are unaware of one of his biggest strengths.

"Cam can really hit as we all know, but I think the thing our opponents don't know about No. 21

is he's got a really good arm," Eller said. "He is a plus thrower, he's very accurate [and] he also moves well in the outfield and goes and gets balls."

Hill brings more than just baseball skills to the team.

"He's so much fun to be around everyday, and he's got that million dollar smile that's infectious to our team," Eller said.

While Hill was hitting ninth in the batting line up at the beginning of the season, Eller has now placed him in the lead off position.

Senior outfielder Wesley Womack said Hill has all the intangibles.

"I knew Cam was special the first time I saw him," Womack said. "He listens and he's very

humble. Cam has always come in and worked hard, he's left handed and has a beautiful swing."

Womack said Hill's success will follow him beyond the baseball field.



Courtesy of GC Sports Information

Cam Hill positions himself at the plate in a matchup against Paine

Hill has shown the ability to hit the ball to the opposite field, hit the ball through the middle and has great hands along with

potential as a power hitter.

"We are looking for

As their 2019 sea-

our best performance,

our breakout perfor-

through the middle and

baseball team looks

mance, and we feel like

toward the future.

it's close," Womack said.



Courtesy of GC Sports Information

Cam Hill steps off the field and heads to the dugout in a matchup against Paine

04.24.2019

CHRIS COLLIER, SPORTS EDITOR
ERIC BOYD, ASST. NEWS EDITOR**SPORTS**

Courtesy of the Hudgins family

The Hudgins brothers pose together at the field after a night game

Brothers**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

After hearing that his older brother Will decided to hang up his spikes, Josh described feeling lost because his role model in baseball decided to stop playing.

That sentiment wasn't lost, however, as Will made a conscious decision to use his last year of eligibility to transfer to Josh's school of choice and play on the same team as his younger brother for the first and last time.

"Honestly, if I didn't have him this year, I would be lost, but having him on the team as a leader, it's

helped a lot," Josh said.

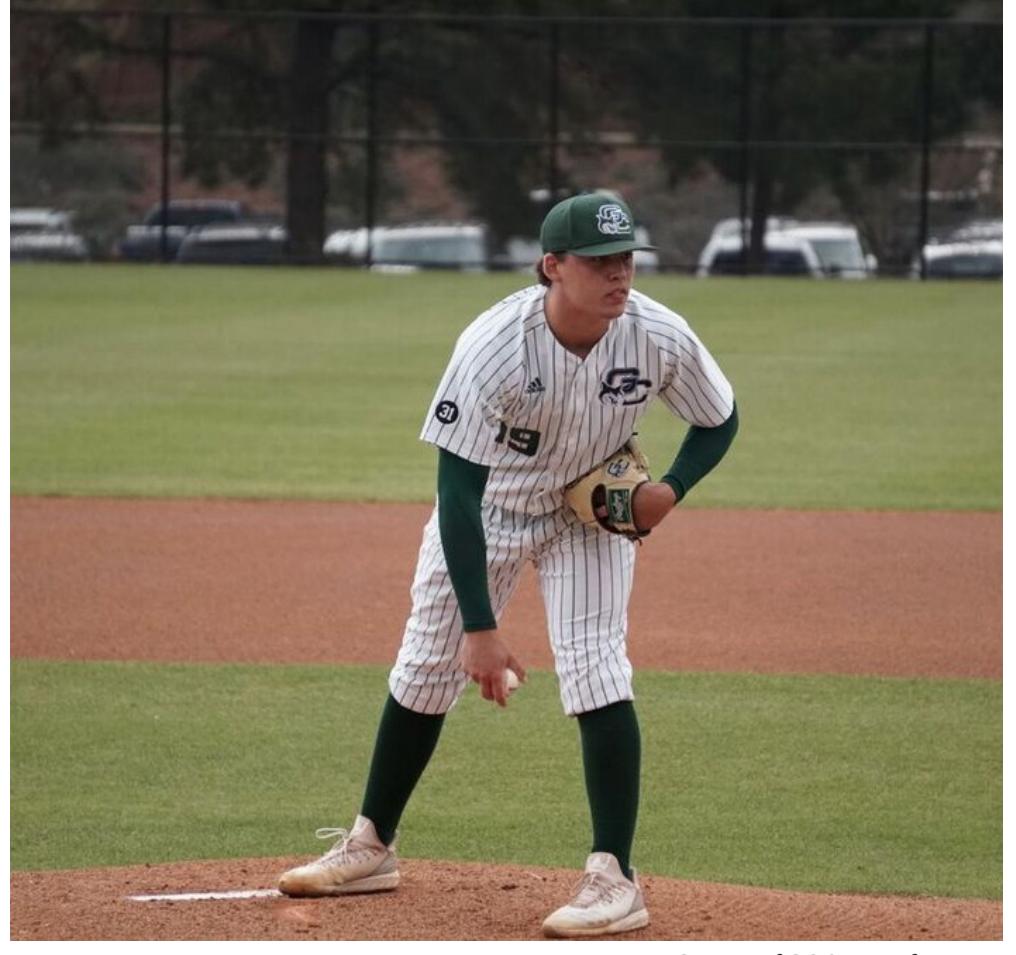
With the season coming to a close, the two brothers are reflecting on the only season they shared as teammates, while also looking towards the future

With a degree in construction management already completed from Georgia Southern, Will has already received job offers



Courtesy of GC Sports Information

Will Hudgins stands looks to his coach during the Florida Tech game



Courtesy of GC Sports Information

Josh Hudgins takes the mound and stares down the batter from Middle Georgia

from construction companies and plans to begin his career in August. The marketing courses he has taken at GC will mainly help him manage and promote his woodworking business.

Josh plans to continue playing baseball at GC for the next three years. He is grateful he was able to grow as a baseball player

er during his first year at GC with the guidance of his older brother.

Their last game together will be a celebratory occasion not only for the two brother's, but also for their entire family. Both parents, the oldest brother Jake and many more family members will show up to support Will and Josh for their

last game as teammates.

"It's surreal," Josh said.

"I'm trying to soak up every moment and every single second with him now because this season has flown by so fast. I want to enjoy every single second with him for my first and last season playing with him."

Bobcat smash aims for esports expansion

Courtesy of Cody House

Smash Club meets in the basement of Parkhurst Hall to play Super Smash Bros

James Robertson
Contributing Writer

The GC Smash Brothers club is looking to become an esports team.

Super Smash Brothers is a game in which play-

ers fight one another with characters from popular video game franchises. The maps are partly two dimensional and have

items that players are able to use to their advantage.

Cody House, a freshman physics major and president of the club,

has seen the growth of the club first hand.

"We already have the second biggest team outside of Atlanta now," House said. "We house our own tournament once every semester called the Milledgeville delusion."

The club goes to different tournaments, usually in Atlanta, but also occasionally to Florida and other states. The best players in the group represent the club at the tournaments.

While many of the best players in the state come from Atlanta, the club is attempting to change that.

William Detjen, a senior English major, has been around since the club's humble beginnings

"I didn't start playing Smash competitively until I got here [GC], and I was one of the original members," Detjen said.

The club originated with a group of strangers brought together by the popular video game, Super Smash Brothers, after seeing an advertisement in the Colonnade.

The club is looking to become an esports team for a number of reasons.

"[Becoming an esports team] would change how the club is viewed," Detjen said. "People want to jump in and you don't have to take it seriously, but we are a competitive, serious team. We're interested in hardcore play."

Luke Belanger, a sophomore business management major and member of the club, hopes to see the club grow in membership in the future.

"I think that being classified as an esports team will help us grow a lot," Belanger said. "That's the issue we've been facing this semester; we haven't been growing as much as we should. I think we'll put a lot more focus on tournaments."

The club meets every Monday and has a weekly tournament, which helps determine informally where people are ranked.

The club hopes to expand as it continues holding tournaments every Monday.

SPORTS

GC alumni continue fulfilling coaching roles

Chris Collier
Sports Editor

There's a family-like culture forming throughout the hallways of Centennial Center. With over five former Bobcats coaching at GC, coaches are leading on the same courts, fields and courses they once played on.

Maurice Smith, head women's basketball coach, graduated as a Bobcat with a psychology degree in 2001. After graduation, Smith stayed in Milledgeville to work at the youth detention center. Two years later, Smith joined the coaching staff at GC in an effort to combine his passion for leading and mentoring with basketball.

But staying in Milledgeville for the long haul wasn't originally part of Smith's plan.

"I had intentions of becoming an assistant coach and using this as a springboard to get me to the next job," Smith said.

"But it's hard to leave good people. It's hard to

leave a good, healthy environment. It's hard to leave people who really care about you as a person and you as a profession."

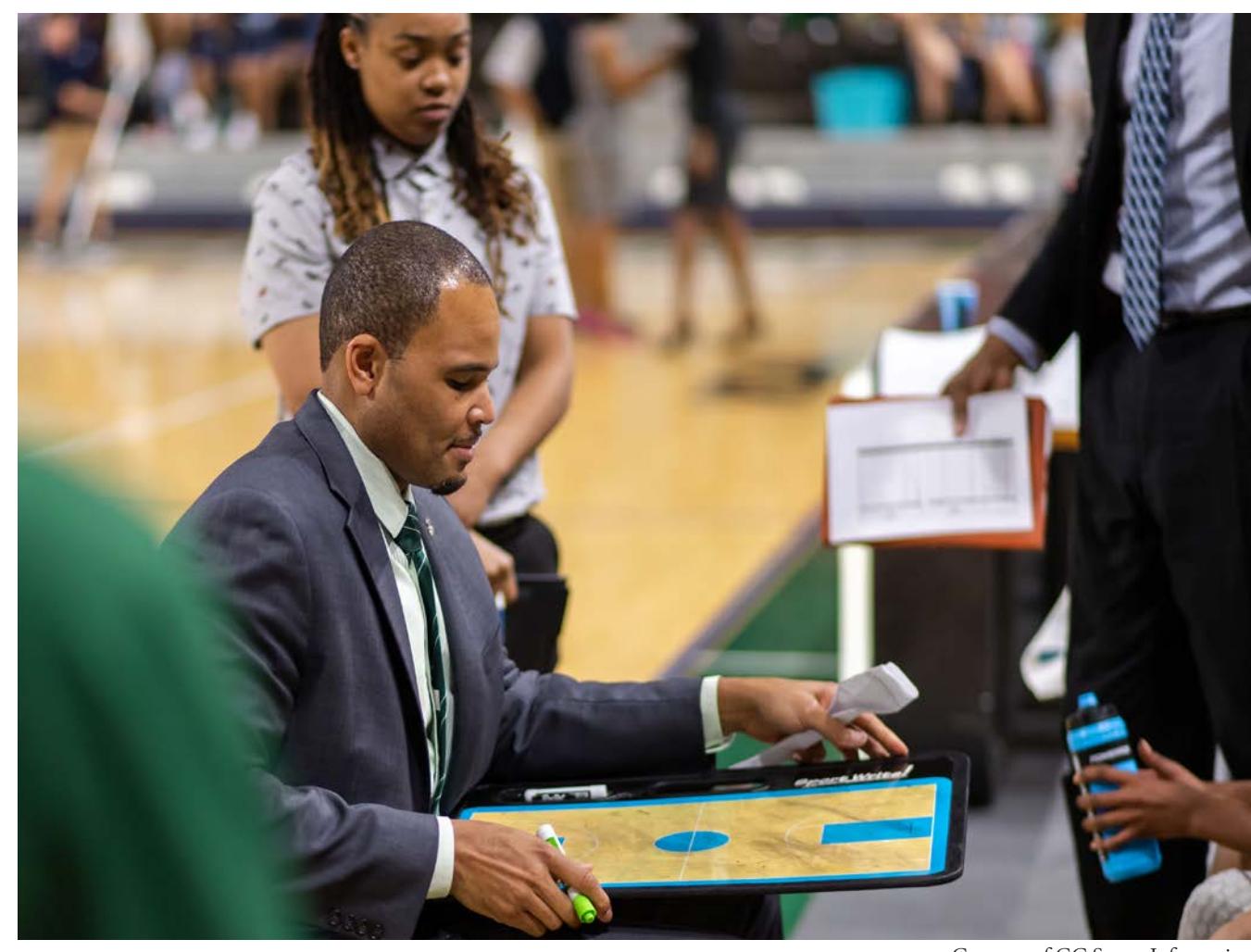
Ryan Aquino, assistant men's basketball coach, graduated with a business management degree in 2012. Aquino played professional basketball in Germany before committing to coach at GC. He said he appreciates the culture at the school.

"The family feel, there's something about it," Aquino said. "The way I'm passionate about GC, a lot of the faculty are. It's not just, 'you're here for two years and you try to move onto another school.'"

Golf coach, Patrick Garrett, graduated with a biology degree in 2013.

Like Smith and Aquino, Garrett wasn't planning on sticking around Milledgeville for as long as he has. He said he took the reigns from longtime GC golf coach Jimmy Wilson after returning for a visit.

"I had helped him [Wilson] out for a lit-



Courtesy of GC Sports Information

Maurice Smith draws up the next play for his team vs. Augusta on Feb. 16

tle bit throughout the years—helping him drive the bus and kind of acting as a volunteer assistant coach," Garrett said.

A former sixth man on the prolific 1999-2000 Elite Eight squad in the NCAA tournament, Smith

uses his playing experience as a role player to

better coach his players.

"I often reference that role that I embraced and how it contributed to the overall team success," Smith said.

Garrett said coaching at the same school he played golf at has given him a different perspective. Having been a former GC play-

er, he understands how

difficult it is to balance academics with athletics.

For Aquino, his connection to GC goes beyond basketball. His former teammates have become family.

"Basketball is kind of what brought us all together and developed those life-long friend-

ships," Aquino said.

As former Bobcats continue to stick around longer than they intended, it's clear there's a culture being formed. Whatever the sport, GC athletics is about more than just the scoreboard—it's about family.

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KATIE O'NEAL, A&L EDITOR
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ARTS & LIFE

JUULCONTINUED FROM
PAGE 1

school students more than doubled from 2011 to 2012. Since then, use of any e-cigarette products have increased exponentially thanks to the introduction of various brands and styles such as JUUL.

The FDA has increasingly relaxed its stance on the products likely due to their popularity and profitability. Because of this, companies are not required to report the contents used in the production of e-cigarette 'juice', causing the youth currently being targeted by these companies to continually intake con-

tents they are unaware of. A presentation Lidstone put together explains all the potential health issues and/or risks that teens could face by consuming these products. One of these being that nicotine levels, as well as other impurities used in production of the juices, are not regulated or well quantified from product to product, meaning there is no way to tell how much of a potentially dangerous chemical enters one's system after one hit.

Peer health educator student, Amara Tennessee, is passionate about informing others of the potential risks e-cigarettes could pose.

"Because of how new the products are, there isn't a lot of information

about the different risks associated with e-cigarettes," Tennessee said. "We do know however that there is a chemical in the pod flavorings called diacetyl that poses serious health threats."

Lewis Barr, a junior biology major, has heard of the FDA's restriction of fruit flavors, and thinks it is a beneficial tactic to go about slowing the rapidly rising nicotine craze, as well as preventing minors from being exposed to such harsh chemicals.

"It was a good move from the FDA to kind of control nicotine addiction in young kids", Barr said. "I think this will overall decrease JUUL use amongst young kids."

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Angie Yones / Art Director

Adventures in Millie during the summer

Sydney Wilson *Staff Writer*

When summer arrives and the students head home, Milledgeville may seem empty and bland. However, hidden beneath the summer haze and construction tarps is a multitude of fun activities to keep your summer occupied; you just have to know who to ask.

Kaitlin Bryan, a junior mass communication major, suggests checking out the antique store and thrift shops downtown without the crowd.

"It's a really different vibe in Milledgeville when all the students are gone; it's a cool time, really peaceful," said Bryan, a resident of Milledgeville for the past three years.

Auntie Bellum's Attic, an antique shop, just moved to a new location on Hancock street next to The Local Yolkal. For low prices you can find vinyl records, vintage clothes and oddities such as Central State merchandise.

If Auntie Bellum's Attic doesn't fit your fancy for vintage clothing, just around the corner is the thrift store, Miles of Styles, on Wayne street, which fre-

quently has sales and a tiny Pomeranian named Harlee.

If the great outdoors are more your scene, Millie has a lot to offer, the first activity being spend a day at Lake Sinclair.

"The lake is definitely a good go-to," said Dane Pinney, a freshman mass communication major who has lived in Milledgeville since 2007. "Your first thing should be find a friend with a lake house."

Even if you can't find a friend with a lake house, Lake Sinclair has plenty of public beaches. One of these public beaches can be found on Goat Island,

residing in the northern part of the lake. Be sure to bring plenty of sunscreen for you and plenty of bread for the goats.

Milledgeville local Caleb Fields, a freshman environmental science major, suggests another use for Lake Sinclair: front row seats for the Fourth of July.

"A lot of people shoot off fireworks out on the lake. If you're here for the Fourth of July, that's something I'd definitely recommend; see if you can make friends with someone who owns a boat and get out on the water to see it. It's the best view of the fireworks in

Milledgeville," Fields said.

If the water isn't really your speed, Bryan also suggests taking an ENO hammock out to Bartram Forest and reading a book with the leaves above to keep you cool. Bartram forest is located about 15 minutes away from the GC campus on Irwinton road.

However, if you love Lake Sinclair and Bartram Forest and just can't decide between them, the Oconee River Greenway offers the best of both worlds. Complete with walking trails, a dog park and the river, itself, the Greenway has something to offer everyone. The best part? It's free.

Last summer, I went with some friends and floated down the Greenway and that was really, really fun," Bryan said.

A final option of fun summer activities in Milledgeville, the Visitor's Center recommends Lockerly Arboretum. Also located on Irwinton road, Lockerly consists of hiking trails through 50 acres of beautifully landscaped grounds and a grand Antebellum home affectionately called "Rose Hill." The best part? It's free.

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KATIE O'NEAL, A&L EDITOR
MORGAN SIMPSON, ASST. A&L EDITOR

ARTS & LIFE

GC students share tips for stress-free finals week**Hannah Daniel***Senior Writer*

Finals week begins Tuesday, May 7 and students are loading up on caffeine and reserving study rooms in the library to make sure they are prepared.

"I don't ever study past 10:00 p.m. and I never study when I feel like I need a break," said Allison Vielhaber, a senior mass communication major.

According to a study conducted by MentalHelp in 2016, 89% of college students were stressed at least two to four times per semester, 30% said they were stressed for almost the entire semester

and 31% of students said that finals were the biggest source of their stress.

Liz Lohrmann, a business advisor at the advising center, suggests that students start preparing early, instead of waiting until the last minute.

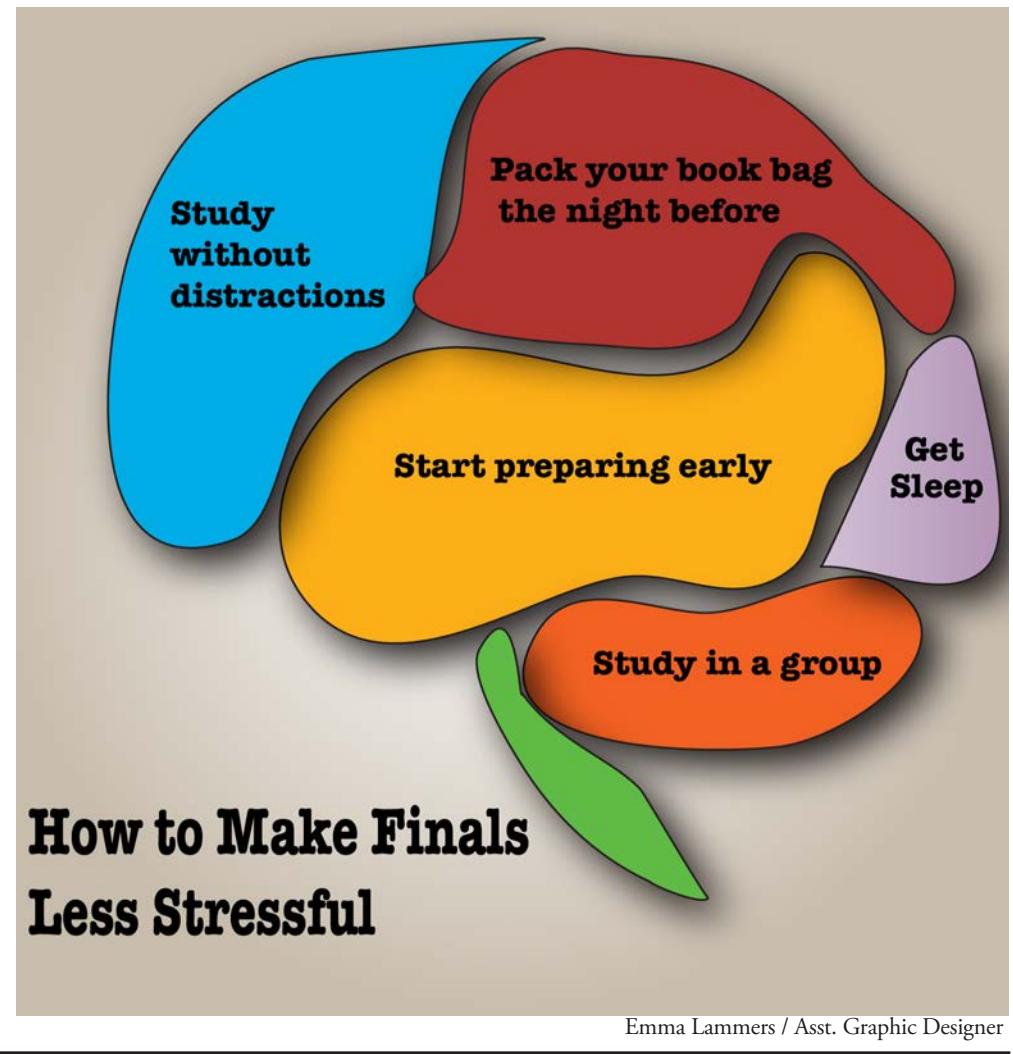
"I make sure that everything is ready and in my book bag the night before, and if I had to dress up for a presentation, I would set it out the night before," said Daniella Thomas, a senior liberal studies major.

Oxford learning discovered 11 of the worst study habits are: starting a study session without a plan, waiting until the last minute, spending hours studying, distractions such as so-

cial media and cell phones, studying in front of the television, trying to cram the night before the test, not asking the professor for clarification when you fail to grasp a topic, studying to remember, instead of studying to understand, not remaining organized and keeping messy notes.

GC recognizes the stress that students are facing. GC has made it a tradition to have "Midnight Breakfast" at Maxwell Student Union the Monday before finals.

Project Up is known for bringing puppies to campus during finals week in an effort to help students shake off some of their stress and succeed going into finals.



Emma Lammers / Asst. Graphic Designer

Where are GC students going this summer?**Hannah Wildes**
Contributing Writer

With only a few more weeks of school left, many students are looking forward to their summer plans whether that involves staying here in Milledgeville, going out of town or studying abroad.

Angel Sosa, a senior exercise science major, has plans to stay here in Milledgeville for the summer and finish up his undergraduate internship with GMC. He hopes to become a full time employee there working with the coaches and players.

"I was actually really on the fence about staying in Milledgeville this summer,"

Sosa said. "I was planning on going to Jacksonville to complete my internship, but one door closes and another opens. Now I have the opportunity to possibly be a paid intern here."

This summer will also be Sosa's first summer in Milledgeville. His goals for the summer are to determine which graduate program to complete and set up plans to move to Jacksonville, Florida, next year.

"I'm excited to experience a summer here. I've heard it's quiet, but I like quiet," Sosa said. "I'm looking forward to getting two certifications, Certified Strength and Conditioning and National Academy of Sports Medicine, which will help me get jobs and we just had a new coach at

GMC that I'm excited to meet and get to know. It will also be nice to be able to get to see my family more often now that my summer schedule won't be as busy."

While some students like Sosa are staying here for the summer, others like Megan Pike, a junior exercise science major, plan on traveling outside of Georgia to Daytona, Florida.

"I'm going on Summer Leadership Project for summer," Pike said. "SLP is where students from different Campus Outreach organizations come to Daytona for a summer of training and growth while learning to share our faith with those around us."

While there, she will also be taking two online summer classes and

holding a job that is provided through SLP. Pike said that while she wants to do good in her classes, she does not want them to take priority over what she is doing in Daytona.

"I'm really excited but at the same time it's a little nerve-racking because I've never gone anywhere for this amount of time. I've never taken a trip like this," Pike said. "I'm excited to grow closer to the girls that are going and to develop those friendships."

Even though Pike is ready for this experience, she said she will miss Milledgeville because of the community and the friendships she has found here.

Another summer experience that many GC students are doing is study

abroad. Taylor Walls, a junior economics major, is going to Chile, South America for study abroad and an internship.

"The scary part is that it's all in Spanish," Walls said.

"We will partner with the University of Andes and stay with a host family rather than in a dorm. Professor Nicholson will be going down with us too."

Walls said that she took this opportunity because it was the only program GC offered and since all of her professors have spoken in the South American dialect,

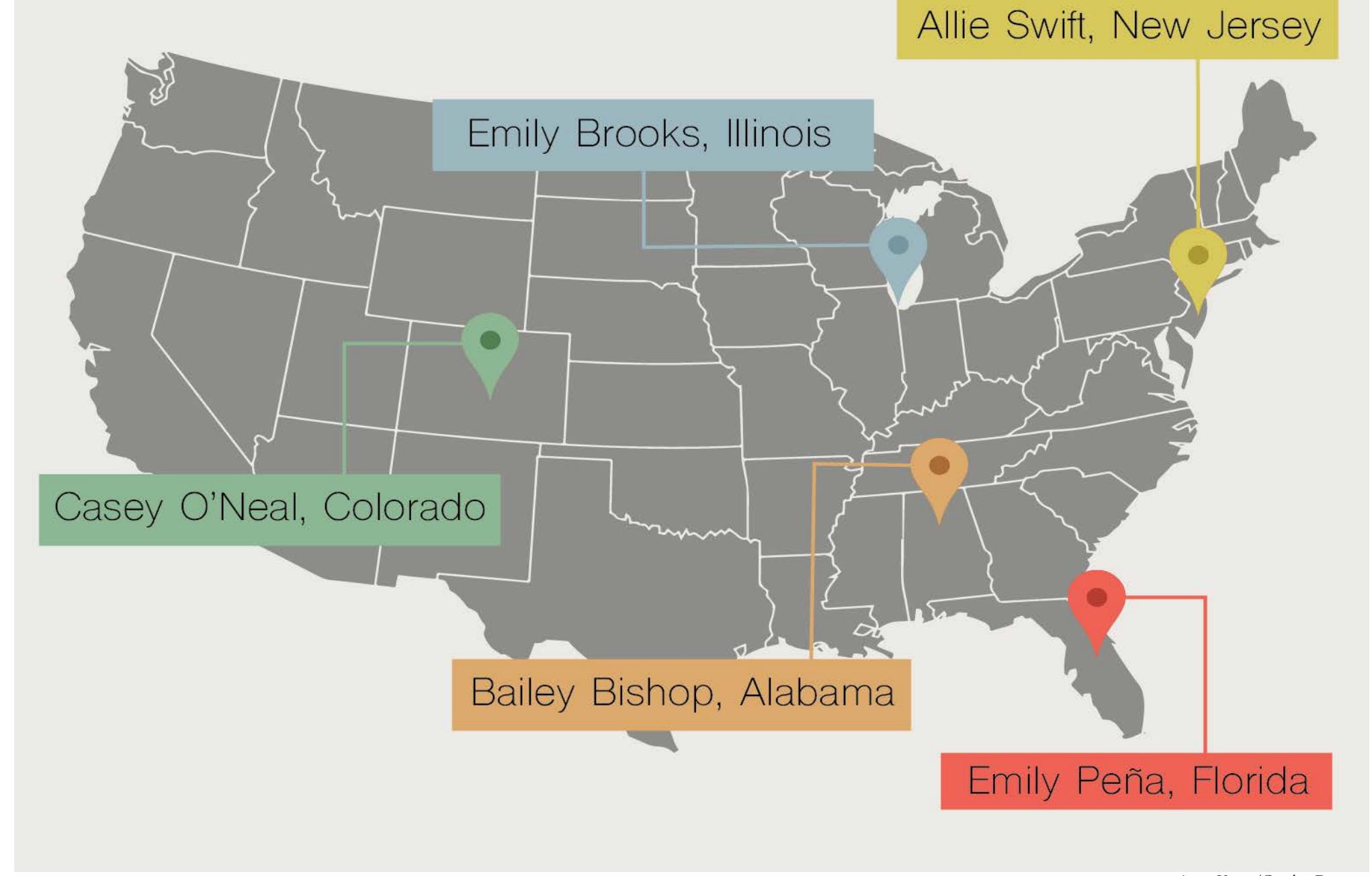
going to a South American country would be easier for her to understand than going somewhere like Spain.

While there, Walls' goal is to be able to start conversations on her own and use

English as little as possible. She will also be taking classes to finish her Spanish minor while doing an internship in human resources.

"I am nervous, but excited. Nervous because I don't know if I can speak that good of Spanish, but I'm excited because I've never been to South America, or Chile," Walls said. "I want to immerse myself in the culture and I want to utilize my Spanish skills properly rather than in a classroom."

With a couple of months of summer break, many students are able to take advantage of the opportunities and experiences that are offered through taking classes, working, traveling or spending time at home.

Bobcats roam for the summer

Angie Yones /Graphic Designer

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